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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/064,327	07/02/2002	Georg K. Blaschke	20043	8285
23470	7590	06/04/2004	EXAMINER	
SRAM CORPORATION 1333 N. KINGSBURY, 4TH FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60622			KIM, CHONG HWA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3682	

DATE MAILED: 06/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/064,327

Applicant(s)

BLASCHKE, GEORG K.

Examiner

Chong H. Kim

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 July 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 July 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the hook element being formed by a separately mountable element such as one of screw and a pin as recited in claim 8 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The hook latching element being formed by a separately mountable element such as one of a screw and a pin is neither described in detail in the Specification nor shown in the Drawings.

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4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 7 recites the limitation "the angle of the segment of the hook latching element" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mao, U.S. Patent 6,041,895.

Mao shows, in Figs. 2-5, a twistshifter for a bicycle, the twistshifter comprising;
a housing element 12 mounted about the handlebar 7;
an actuating element 24 rotatable about an axis of the handlebar, the actuating element having a limited angle of rotation;

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a locking device 14, 23 for securing the actuating element to the housing element, the locking device including a first latching element 14 arranged on the housing element and a second latching element 23 having a complementary shape to the first latching element and arranged directly on the actuating element;

wherein the first and second latching elements are arranged at a radius of the twistshifter located near the handlebar;

wherein the first and second latching elements extend along two segments of a circumference of the twistshifter, the segments defining angles of different sizes; and

wherein the difference between the angles of the segments of the latching elements corresponds to a maximum angle of rotation of the actuating element.

8. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hanatani, U.S. Patent 6,595,894 B2.

Hanatani shows, in Figs. 1-4, a twistshifter for a bicycle, the twistshifter comprising;
a housing element 50 mounted about the handlebar 12;
an actuating element 30 rotatable about an axis of the handlebar, the actuating element having a limited angle of rotation;

a locking device 152 for securing the actuating element to the housing element, the locking device including a first latching element 152 arranged on the housing element and a second latching element (the end portion of element 30) having a complementary shape to the first latching element and arranged directly on the actuating element;

wherein the first and second latching elements are arranged at a radius of the twistshifter located near the handlebar;

wherein one of the first and second latching elements has a hook contour extending along a segment of a circumference of the twistshifter and the other of the first and second latching elements forms an undercut having a complementary shape to the hook contour.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 3 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mao in view of Wessel, U.S. Patent 6,615,688 B2.

Mao shows, as discussed above in the rejection of claim 1, the twistshifter comprising the locking device having the first and second latching elements, but fails to show the latching elements having hook engagement.

Wessel shows, in Figs. 1-4, a twistshifter comprising a locking device having a first latching element 15 and a second latching element 7, wherein the second latching element has a hook contour extending along a segment of a circumference of the twistshifter and the first latching element forms an undercut having a complementary shape to the hook contour.

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the locking device of Mao with the hook engaging device as

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taught by Wessel in order to provide a more securing shifter so that the mechanism would last longer.

Allowable Subject Matter

11. Claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Twistshifter with hook locking devices.

Sturmer et al., U.S. Patent 6,513,405 B1

Huang et al., U.S. Patent 5,660,083

Chang, U.S. Pub No. US 2002/0152830 A1

Patterson, U.S. Patent 4,938,733

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chong H. Kim whose telephone number is (703) 305-0922. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday - Friday; 8:00 - 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A Bucci can be reached on (703) 308-3668. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

chk

June 1, 2004



CHONG H. KIM
PRIMARY EXAMINER